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EDITORIAL

RABBI GEORGE FOX, Editor

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TAFT AND THE JEW.

The lecture of Ex-President William Howard Taft in Chicago last week ought to go a long way towards lessening the harm that is being done by Ford. Judge Taft is one of the commanding personalities not only of America but of the world, and the words uttered by him carry tremendous weight. Within the last few years, he has endeared himself to the American public in a way that no other American with the exception of Roosevelt, did, and what he has to say about the questions of the day, is listened to with attention and earnestness. Not only the Jews, but all right-thinking citizens are under obligations to him, for in clarion voice he sets forth the true principles upon which American democracy is built. "There is not the slightest ground for anti-Semitism among us," said Mr. Taft. "It has no place in free America." And we are willing to stake the judgment of the genial ex-president against that of the paid minions of Henry Ford.

We may say in passing, that Mr. Taft told the writer that in his judgment, whatever influence Henry Ford could have through his sheet, so far as spreading anti-Semitism is concerned, would be of temporary character. Mr. Taft does not believe that America will take Ford's propaganda seriously, he said. May he be as good a prophet, as he is wise, a judge!

THE INDEPENDENT AND FORD.

An article of more than ordinary note is the editorial in last week's Independent by Edwin E. Slosson, literary editor of the magazine, entitled the "Anti-Semitic Scare." Mr. Slosson goes rather minutely into the history of the so-called "Protocols" and with a fine humor exposes the Ford fraud and chicanery. The article is worth reading, and we hope to reproduce it in the near future. One paragraph, we quote here, to show the fine timbre and cutting sarcasm of the writer: "I have not yet heard that Pope Benedict is a Hebrew and a thirty-third degree Mason, but I expect to anyway. I have, however, been seriously assured by a

traveler returned from Switzerland, that 'all Europe knows' that the Vatican, the Soviet and the Sinn Fein are allied, and that the Pope, Lenin and De Valera are working together to overthrow British Protestantism and Russian Orthodoxy. Now, if as the Morning Post (of London) holds, the Jews and Free Masons control at least two out of these three organizations, this is indeed a formidable sect."

The Morning Post is the London newspaper that first published the so-called Protocols, and is still engaged in a vicious spread of anti-Semitic propaganda. It is one of the oldest and most conservative of the English dailies. Mr. Slosson concludes his article with these words. "The conspiracy phobia is one of the worst forms of crowd-madness, easy to start, hard to eradicate and leading to persecution and pogroms, riot and revolution. Let us not encourage it." GEORGE FOX.

THE JEWS AND THE SOIL.

At the annual convention of the Federation of Jewish Farmers of America, Louis Marshall of New York, made an appeal for a return of the Jew to the soil. Mr. Marshall's appeal is timely. It is a pity that our people do not take to the soil in greater numbers. Although there are fifty-millions of dollars worth of farm lands in the hands of Jews in this country with equipment valued at over ten millions of dollars, a return of larger numbers to the land, would be of inestimable value not only to those who would go on farms, but to the nation itself. We are becoming urbanized at an alarming rate. One of the most serious of the objections to immigration, is that our people will drift to and settle in large cities and industrial centres. Let us admit that this objection is well-founded. Only the fewest of the Jewish immigrants go to the farms, and yet farming or rather land and agriculture are the very basis of all healthy economic life. The country feeds the city—and famine in the country means starvation in the city.

If the national organizations interested in Jewish immigration could divert the stream of those who come to these shores,

from the cities and industrial centres, to the farms, the most serious objection to the incoming of foreigners would be removed; and while the commercial interests and therefore other interests are bettered by those who go into commercial pursuits, the country at large would gain immeasurable benefit, if a large number of incoming co-religionists would settle on the farms that are being vacated by the hundreds, and would develop into successful farmers.

The desertion of the farm is becoming a serious question in this country—and some measures will soon have to be adopted whereby there will be some assurance that enough will be produced from the earth, to feed the ever-increasing populations of our cities.

Mr. Marshall was right. Let our incoming co-religionists develop into healthy farmers, instead of weakened urbanites.

GEORGE FOX.

THE BLUE-LAW REVIVAL.

From a New Bible.

And it came to pass that a wicked generation had multiplied and filled the earth. And the land was full of sin. The Commandments were being violated. The worship of God gave way to the worship of Mammon. Reverence for God gave way to reverence for things material. There was no Sabbath—no day of rest. Men and women rode on cars; they sought pleasures on the day of holiness that had been set aside for the Sunday school and the church. They played ball and golf and went out for rides in their automobiles; they even rested their minds that had worked hard and wearily all week by reading certain colored funny sheets in the Sunday dailies; they who toiled and slaved and had no time to read on weekdays, profaned the Sabbath by reading profane newspapers on Sundays, tho these sometimes contained reading worth while; many who could not do so otherwise, went to devil's haunts, otherwise called "picture shows" on the Lord's (?) Sabbath; delicatessen stores and cigar stands were open; baseball parks and bathing beaches were widely patronized; theatres and concert

halls were operated and trains and pleasure boats were filled to overflowing. So full of wickedness was the world. There was robbery, immorality, dishonor of parents, senseless jealousy, assassination of character, unholy covetousness, dishonest dealings, oppression of the poor, and intemperateness on the part of the rich, but of all the sins of society, the violation of the Sabbath (?) displeased (?) the Lord the most; and he said unto Himself, behold, I have made a miserable job of this whole mundane business. I have sent Noah, who was righteous in his generation, and was the only one saved in the flood, and he failed; I have sent Moses, who was the greatest of all Law-givers, and he fell down on the job; I picked the prophets, but they turned out to be impractical preachers; my reformers were but "pikers," and my modern teachers are blind leaders of the blind. Surely the world is going to the bow-wows, what shall I do? And the Creator consulted with the heavenly family to see if they could find one that would save the world. He counseled with his angelic ministers and after much toilsome searching they found one, and only one who could meet the conditions laid down for the important task of purifying the earth. They were not (?) bothered by the crimes in the land; they cared not (?) for the great injustices that were being committed; they looked with little (?) concern upon the misery, the wretchedness, the suffering of humankind that could be avoided; they closed (?) their eyes to the immorality on earth; they overlooked (?) the serious defects in society—they only wanted someone to establish the Lord's (?) quiet, mournful, solemn, depressing Sabbath, which seemed to them to be the most (?) important (?) thing in the world; and they found, yes, fortunately for them, they found the Buster of Worthless Living, the Bugbear of Youth, the Rev. Dr. Bowlby, and created him head of the Lords Day Alliance. And now a bill is to be presented to Congress—if indeed it has not already been presented, to make Sunday the official Sabbath, and to punish those who would violate it by doing anything except